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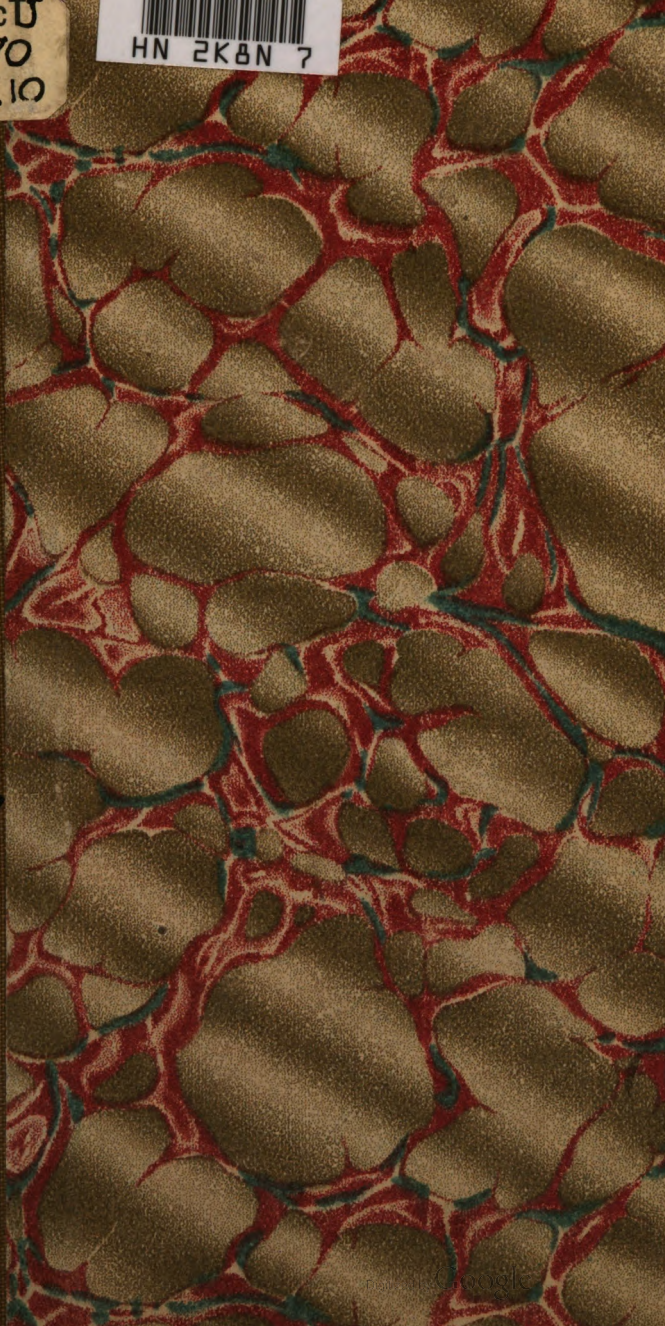
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William's College - Adelpic Union - Constitution
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CONSTITUTIONS.

Williams College.



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CONSTITUTION

OF THE

ADELPHIC UNION.

ARTICLE I.

FORMATION AND NAME.

SEC. 1. This Society shall be composed of the **PHILOTECHNIAN** and **PHILOLOGIAN** Societies of Williams College, and shall be called the **ADELPHIC UNION**.

ARTICLE II.

SEC. 1. The Officers of this Society shall consist of a **PRESIDENT** and **SECRETARY**, to be chosen annually from the **Junior Class**, on the **Wednesday** preceding the last **Senior Examination**.

SEC. 2. The **Branch Societies** shall have the **Election** of the **President** and **Secretary**, alternately ; but neither shall have the election of both at the same time. The **President** is to be elected from the **Philologian Society**, in 1851.

ARTICLE III.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

SEC. 1. The **President** shall preside at all meetings of the **Society**, and shall be empowered to call special meetings when he shall deem it necessary.

SEC. 2. The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings at each meeting of the Society, and conduct its correspondence.

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of the President and Secretary to report to their respective Societies the names of all persons who enter College, and keep a record of the same.

ARTICLE IV.

REMOVAL AND RESIGNATION.

SEC. 1. The Officers of this Society may be removed from office, after complaint by three members, and trial and conviction before a Joint Committee of three from each Society, chosen or appointed expressly for that purpose.

SEC. 2. In case of the death, resignation, or removal of any Officer, the vacancy shall be filled by an election from the same Society to which the Officer so vacating belonged.

ARTICLE V.

EXHIBITIONS.

SEC. 1. There shall be an Exhibition of this Society, annually, on the evening after the close of the Senior Examination in July, the Exhibitors for which shall be chosen on the fourth Wednesday in March.

SEC. 2. The appointments shall consist of thirteen Exhibitors, as follows : A Valedictorian, from that branch of the Society of which the President of the Adelpic Union is a member ; also, one Debater, one Disputant, one Poet, and three Orators from each of the branch Societies. The Valedictorian, Debaters and Disputants, must be chosen from the Senior Class.

CONSTITUTION OF THE ADELPHIC UNION.

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SEC. 3. The time occupied by each Debater shall not exceed twenty minutes, and the time occupied by any other appointee shall not exceed eight minutes.

SEC. 4. The question to be discussed by the Debaters shall be chosen in the following manner, viz : that Branch Society of which the President of the Adelpic Union is a member, shall decide upon and propose in writing to the other Society, a question for discussion, within three weeks after the election of the Exhibitors ; and that branch Society to which such question is proposed, shall choose the affirmative or negative side, and make known its choice to the other Society, within two weeks after this proposal has been made.

SEC. 5. Each of the Debaters shall speak twice upon the question, and their Debate shall be extemporaneous.

SEC. 6. The Disputants shall speak but once each, and their Dispute shall be written.

SEC. 7. The Order of Exercises of the Adelpic Exhibition shall be arranged by the Professor of Rhetoric.

ARTICLE VI.

PUBLIC DEBATES.

SEC. 1. The Philotechnian and Philologian Societies shall meet jointly, twice a year, for a Public Debate, under the following regulations :

SEC. 2. Four members shall be chosen by ballot from each Society for each Debate. The appointees from one Society shall discuss one side, and the appointees of the other Society the other side of that question which they may agree upon, and which shall have been previously accepted by the Societies.

SEC. 3. The question shall be chosen and accepted at least three weeks before the evening of the Debate.

SEC. 4. No member of either Society shall be eligible to two consecutive Debates.

SEC. 5. The time occupied by each Debater shall not exceed fifteen minutes, and he shall in no case be interrupted while speaking.

SEC. 6. The President of the Adelpic Union shall preside at these Debates. If, however, he shall have been appointed to Debate, the Society to which he belongs shall appoint a President pro tem.

SEC. 7. These Debates shall be held in the College Chapel, on the sixth Wednesday evening of the first Collegiate Term, and on the eighth Wednesday evening of the second Term.

SEC. 8. The Debaters for the first term shall be chosen on the Wednesday evening next preceding Commencement; those for the second term, on the second Wednesday evening of that term.

ARTICLE VII.

DUTIES OF THE BRANCH SOCIETIES.

SEC. 1. Neither of the Branch Societies shall admit to membership more than two-thirds of all those persons who enter College during any Collegiate year.

SEC. 2. Neither of the Branch Societies shall admit to membership any person who has been allotted to, or in any way connected with the other Society, or who has not been in attendance upon College duties at least two weeks.

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of that Branch Society of which the

President of the Adelphic Union is a member, to secure an Orator for the evening preceding Commencement that year.

ARTICLE VIII.

AMENDMENTS, ETC.

SEC. 1. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed to each Branch Society, by a Committee of two appointed for the purpose ; but such amendments shall not be adopted unless two-thirds of the members of each Society shall concur therein.

SEC. 2. If at the expiration of three years from the adoption of this Constitution or at any subsequent period, a request be made by three-fourths of the members of either Branch Society to go back to the former system of allotments, this request shall be granted.

SEC. 3. Upon the adoption of any amendments to this Constitution, and upon official communication of the same by the respective Secretaries of the Branch Societies, the Secretary of the Adelphic Union shall record it in the Adelphic Union Records, and no amendments shall be valid unless so recorded.

SEC. 4. All drafts of this Constitution to be valid, must be made under the supervision and accompanied by the attestation of one member from each Branch Society.

SEC. 5. The Branch Societies shall keep attested copies of this Constitution, with all future amendments, and in all cases of collision with their enactments, this Constitution shall have the preference.

SEC. 6. This Constitution shall take effect on and after the commencement of the Collegiate year, 1850-51.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

PHILOTECHNIAN SOCIETY,

As Amended June, 1851.

ARTICLE I.

NAME AND OBJECT.

Sec. 1. This Society shall be called the PHILOTECHNIAN SOCIETY.

Sec. 2. The object of this Society shall be the literary improvement of its members.

ARTICLE II.

OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES.

Sec. 1. The officers of this Society shall consist of President, Vice President, two Critics, Secretary, two Editors, Librarian, Treasurer, and an Examining Committee of two.

Sec. 2. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society, and shall make the appointments for its literary exercises.

Sec. 3. The Vice President shall assist the President in the performance of his duties, and, in his absence, shall preside in his stead.

Sec. 4. The Critics shall examine all written exercises designed for the Society, except the "Philotechnian;" shall correct them

if they deem it necessary, and shall determine whether they shall be presented. In the absence of one or both of the higher officers, the Critics shall assume the duties of the vacated office or offices, taking precedence according to the order of their election.

Sec. 5. In the absence of the President, Vice President and both Critics, the Society shall appoint a President "*pro tem.*" from the Senior class, if there be any members of that class present.

Sec. 6. The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the Society. At each meeting he shall call the roll, and read the record of the preceding meeting. He shall keep in his record book, in convenient form for reference, an accurate account of all absences, non-fulfillments; and also all questions of debate. He shall conduct the correspondence of the Society.

Sec. 7. The five higher officers shall constitute a Council, which shall have power to inflict, for misdemeanors, any punishment which they may consider not more grievous than suspension for three months from the privileges of the Society and the use of the Library. The Council shall lay all cases of misdemeanor which they may deem worthy of a severer punishment than suspension for three months, before the Society, with recommendations of a course to be pursued. They shall assess all taxes of the Society, and all fines provided for in the Constitution. They shall be disposers of all moneys belonging to the Philotechnian Treasury, and shall report all expenditures to the Society.

Sec. 8. The Secretary of the Society shall be the Secretary of the Council. He shall communicate their orders to the Librarian and Treasurer respectively, and shall record and read before the Society such of their proceedings as they may require.

Sec. 9. The Elitors shall conduct "The Philotechnian," and shall read it alternately before the Society.

Sec. 10. The Librarian shall have immediate charge of the rooms of the Society and of its Library ; and shall be accountable to the Society for any injury or loss that may accrue to either through his negligence or misconduct. He shall keep an accurate account of the necessary expenditures of his department, and upon reporting to the Council, shall receive an allowance therefor, from the Treasury.

Sec. 11. The Treasurer shall receive all moneys due to the Society by assessment or otherwise ; keep an accurate record of the same ; report in writing to the Secretary and to the Society when called upon. He shall pay money out of the Treasury, upon the receipt of a written order from the Council and not otherwise.

Sec. 12. The Examining Committee shall examine the Library and Society rooms, and furnish a written report of their condition to the Society, within one week after their election ; and their report shall be placed on file by the Secretary and preserved in the archives of the Society. They shall also be a committee to purchase books for the Library.

Sec. 13. All written reports of committees appointed to transact the incidental business of the Society, if accepted, shall be placed on file by the Secretary and preserved in the archives of the Society.

Sec. 14. All the officers of this Society shall acquaint themselves with the Constitution on entering upon the duties of their respective offices, and shall be accountable to the Society for any evil consequences that may result from their ignorance or neglect of its provisions.

ARTICLE III.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Sec. 1. The first Editor and the officers composing the Council, shall be elected from the Senior class ; the second Editor and Treasurer from the Junior class, by ballot, quarterly, as follows :— on the Wednesday preceeding the Senior Examination in July ; on the third Wednesday in October ; on the second Wednesday of the second term, and on the last Wednesday of the same term.

Sec. 2. The Librarian shall be elected from the Junior class, and the examining committee from the Sophomore class, annually, by ballot, on the first Wednesday in July.

Sec. 3. A majority of the votes cast shall be necessary for a choice in the election of officers.

Sec. 4. At and after the election of officers in July, the Junior, Sophomore and Freshmen classes shall each assume, in the Society, the ranks of the next higher class, and their members shall receive the appointments of Seniors, Juniors and Sophomores respectively.

ARTICLE IV.

IMPEACHMENT.

Sec. 1. Any officer for misdemeanor, may be removed from office, and suspended or expelled from the Society according to the aggravation of the offence, upon trial and conviction by a committee of the whole.

Sec. 2. No officer shall be subjected to a trial unless a bill of impeachment be first presented to the Council, signed by at least one third of the Society, at the time attending on college duties.

CONSTITUTION OF THE PHILOTECHNIAN SOCIETY. 23

Sect. 3. All bills of impeachment with the result of the trial endorsed thereon, shall be placed on file and preserved in the archives of the Society; and all account of the trial and its results shall be transcribed into the records.

ARTICLE V.

MEMBERSHIP.

Sec. 1. No person can become a member of this Society who is not a member of College.

Sec. 2. No person shall be admitted to the rights of membership of this Society;—1st,—until he shall have been a member of College at least two weeks. 2d,—Except upon concurrence of two-thirds of the members present, and one-half the members at the time attending upon college duties. 3d,—Unless he assent to the following affirmation:—"You, in the presence of the members of this Society, upon the honor of a gentleman, do promise to fulfill your appointments, to sustain the interests, and support the Constitution of this Society to the best of your ability." 4th,—Until he have paid to the Treasurer the sum of five dollars. 5th,—But no person can be a member of this Society who belongs to, or is in any way connected with the Philologian Society.

Sec. 3. The initiation fee of any person joining this Society, shall be remitted, provided he produce a certificate of membership of a college literary society, in any other collegiate institution, the initiation fee of which, at least equals in amount that of this Society; but if that fee be less, the candidate for membership must pay into this treasury the differing sum, before he can become a member.

ARTICLE VI.

DUTIES OF MEMBERS.

Sec. 1. Every member shall be required to attend all the reg-

ular meetings of the Society, unless excused by the presiding officer ; and for any delinquency shall be fined not less than six, nor more than twenty-five cents.

Sec. 2. Every member shall be required to fulfill all appointments given him by the president, and for every failure shall be fined not less than six nor more than twenty-five cents.

Sec. 3. Every member shall pay to the Treasurer a tax of twenty-five cents per term, for the use of the library.

Sec. 4. Every member elected an exhibitor of the Adelphic Union by this Society, shall be required to fulfill the appointment unless excused by the Society ; and in case of failure, shall be fined not less than two nor more than six dollars.

Sec. 5. Every member shall be required to wear the badge of the Society at the Adelphic Union Exhibition — at Commencement, and at all other College Exhibitions of which he may be an exhibitor ; and for any omission, shall be fined not less than twenty-five nor more than fifty cents.

ARTICLE VII.

DISMISSION, EXPULSION, ETC.

Sec. 1. If any member refuse to pay any of the fines or taxes assessed upon him by the Council, he may be suspended by the Council for any period not exceeding three months ; and if at the end of his term of suspension, he still refuse to pay any of the demands of the Society against him, he may be expelled or excused at the discretion of the Society.

Sec. 2. No member who is suspended shall be excused from the regular tax of the Society.

Sec. 3. Any member not charged with misdemeanor, who shall

bring a certificate from the Treasurer that all his dues to the Society have been paid, requesting an honorable dismissal, shall receive it at the hands of the President; but if such member have any appointment at the time of making the request, the President may refuse him a dismissal till it be fulfilled.

Sec. 4. Any member having been dismissed or expelled, may be restored to the privileges of the Society and Library upon the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

ARTICLE VIII.

BADGE.

Sec. 1. The badge of this Society, shall be a white ribbon.

ARTICLE IX.

MEETINGS.

Sec. 1. The Society shall convene weekly, on Wednesday evening, at such hour as the Council may direct.

Sec. 2. The Council shall have power to call meetings for the transaction of incidental business, at any time during the college terms, upon giving public notice thereof.

Sec. 3. The place of meeting of this Society shall be the Philotechnian Hall; and not less than three-fourths of its members can constitute a quorum to transact business in any other place.

ARTICLE X.

LIBRARY.

Sec. 1. Every bound volume belonging to the library of the Philotechnian Society shall have a label fixed to the inside of the

cover, which shall be stamped with an engraving symbolical of the objects of the Society, and inscribed with the number of the volume and the name of the donor, if it be a gift.

Sec. 2. Every volume and pamphlet belonging to this Library shall have the word "PHILOTECHNIAN," in large letters, stamped on the title page, and one other page near the middle of the book, in such a manner that it may not be removed without destroying some essential portion of the print; and every periodical taken by the Philotechnian Society shall be stamped in like manner, before it is lent to any member.

Sec. 3. Every bound volume, before it is lent, shall be registered in a written catalogue, by the Librarian, with the number and cost annexed; and this catalogue shall be copied and remodeled whenever the Society require.

Sec. 4. Every borrower shall be accountable to the Librarian for every volume by him taken; and for every one he does not return he shall pay the full amount charged in the Librarian's book or catalogue; and for every number of any magazine he shall pay twice the original cost.

Sec. 5. No person shall be permitted to draw books or papers of any name or description belonging to this Society who is not a member in regular standing, or who did not graduate in regular standing, nor shall he be permitted to borrow books while in debt to the Society.

ARTICLE XI.

AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS.

Sec. 1. For the particular regulations of the Library, and for all other matters connected with the interests of the Society not

provided for in this Constitution, the Society may enact temporary laws which shall go in force upon the concurrence of a majority of the members.

Sec. 2. Any member may propose new by-laws, or the alteration of those already existing, but no such proposition shall be acted upon till one week after it is made.

Sec. 3. All by-laws shall be recorded in a portion of the book of records, appropriated to their purpose, in order, and with the date of their adoption.

ARTICLE XII.

READING OF ARTICLES, AND AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

Sec. 1. Articles I., V., VI., VII. and X. shall be read at the first meeting of the society, in each collegiate year. Articles II., III. and IV. shall be read at the time of election of officers.—Article VIII. shall be read at the last meeting before the Adelphic Union Exhibition in July. Any portion of this Constitution relating to any particular subject shall be read at any time, at the request of two members present, unless overruled by the Society.

Sec. 2. The Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the Society, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present; but every amendment shall be proposed in writing, at least one week before its adoption.

Sec. 3. Any amendments that may be at any time adopted, shall be recorded at the time of their adoption, with the date attached, on the pages immediately following the Constitution itself, and a suitable reference shall be made thereto, in the margin opposite to the article amended; but no interpolations, further than are necessary for such reference shall be made, nor shall any article or portion of an article be erased.

BY - LAWS
OF THE
PHILOTECHNIAN SOCIETY.

1. The Order of Exercises at each regular meeting of the Society, shall be as follows :

1. Calling the Roll, and reading the minutes.
2. Compositions.
3. Forensic Dispute.
4. Debate.
5. Reading "The Philotechnian."
6. Oration.
7. Oration or Critical Review.
8. Miscellaneous Business.
9. Appointments.
10. Censor-Piece.
11. Adjournment.

2. The appointments shall be made by the President two weeks before the exercise is due.

3. The appointees for Composition and Oration, shall be indiscriminately from the Junior, Sophomore and Freshman Classes.

4. The appointments for Dispute shall be made from the three lower Classes in the following manner, viz : the Secretary shall call the roll alphabetically, commencing with the name next succeeding that of the last Appointee ; when two respond to their names, they shall be considered as appointed for Dispute ; if none respond, the President shall appoint the two whose names were last called, but the two Disputants shall be of the same Class.

5. The Oration or Critical Review shall be from a member of the Senior Class. The Censor-Piece may be from any member of the Society.

6. The appointments for Debate shall be made from the Senior Class in the same manner as the appointments for Dispute.

7. The question for Debate shall be chosen by the leading Debaters, and presented to the Society one week previous to its discussion.

8. The Leading Debaters shall open and close the Debate ; but before it is closed any member of the Society may speak upon the question.

9. A leading Debater may speak *fifteen* minutes at a time ; but no other member shall occupy more than *ten* minutes in debate.

10. Any Debate shall not be continued for a longer time than two hours, unless by a special vote of the Society.

11. The question shall be decided according to the merits of the Debate by the vote of the Members not participating in the discussion ; which vote shall be taken by " Yeas and Nays."

12. No member shall occupy more than five minutes in reading a Composition, nor more than ten in a Dispute or Oration.

13. Every written exercise shall be shown to one of the Critics for examination, at least two hours before it is presented to the Society ; and a neglect of this provision shall be regarded as a failure in the appointment.

14. The Censor-Piece shall be presented to the President for criticism.

15. The regular Literary Exercises shall not be adjourned—except on the evenings of election and those preceding public days—unless by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS.

1. Any member, who, while attending on College duties, has not attended three-fourths of the regular meetings of this Society ; or, has not fulfilled three-fourths of his appointments ; or has been fined a number of times equal to one-fourth of the regular meetings, shall be ineligible to any office in this Society.

2. Every member who whispers, or leaves his seat without permission of the presiding officer, shall be fined not less than six nor more than twenty-five cents.

3. Any member who shall misuse any of the furniture in the Society Room shall be subject to a fine.

4. No member shall applaud by stamping, or by thumping the floor with his cane.

THE CATALOGUE.

1. The Society shall publish a Triennial Catalogue.
2. The time of publication shall be at the College Commencement.
3. The Committee of publication shall be selected from the class to graduate at that time.
4. The expense of the Catalogues shall be imposed by a tax upon the members of the Society, belonging to the three lower Classes.
5. Every member having paid said tax may receive, free of expense, a number of Catalogues equal in cost to half the sum assessed against him.

R. H. W., *Scrip.*

B Y - L A W S

FOR THE REGULATION OF THE LIBRARY.

1. The Library shall be open for the delivery and return of books, at 1 o'clock, P. M., every Wednesday and Saturday during term time.
2. Seniors shall be entitled to draw four books; Juniors, three; Sophomores and Freshmen, two, at any one time; and no more can be drawn until the whole or a part have been returned.
3. No member shall detain books longer than two weeks, under penalty of twelve and a half cents per week, for each book, except by renewal, or by the consent of the Librarian.

4. All books must be returned at the close of each term, and at such other times as the Librarian shall direct.

5. Each member shall be entitled to draw at the close of each term, as many books as there are weeks in the succeeding vacation ; the books to be returned at the beginning of the next term.

6. No books shall be drawn during vacation.

7. The Librarian shall impose all fines in violation of library laws, and commit them to the Treasurer for collection.

8. No member shall be permitted to take a book from the Library, until he has paid all his taxes and fines.

9. The Librarian may choose any member of the Society to act as his assistant.

10. The Librarian shall be entitled to a salary of five dollars.

This book should be returned to the Library on or before the last date stamped below.

A fine of five cents a day is incurred by retaining it beyond the specified time.

Please return promptly.

